■ SPORTS/A33
Pacquiao-Larios tickets to cost as much as $1,000

■ BUSINESS/B1
ABS-CBN reports 62% drop in 2005 net income

■ ACROSS/A22
Cebu rejects Cha-cha signature campaign for people's initiative

■ NEWS/A4, A9, A10
Complete list of 2005 successful bar examinees

Slain cop wrote open letter chiding Pasig colleagues

By Luige A. del Puerto and Tarra V. Quismundo

BEFORE HE WAS GUNNED DOWN IN A DARING daylight attack, Chief Insp. Renato Manangan had written an open letter to colleagues in the Pasig "ELITE" Police Brotherhood Association Inc.

"The glory that we have managed to enjoy for almost two decades … has plummeted to zero level," said the slain deputy chief of the Police In-

SLAIN/A6

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Friday, March 31, 2006 ★★ 10 sections / Vol. 21 / No. 113 P18 website: www.inq7.net

4 lawyers' groups seek disbarment of Gonzalez

By Armand N. Nocum

FOUR LAWYERS' GROUPS are seeking the suspension and eventual disbarment of Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez on the grounds that he allegedly committed acts "inimical to the ad-



4 LAWYERS/A6

UP tops bar exams again; JDV niece is No. 1

By Armand N. Nocum and Leila B. Salaverria

JOAN A. DE VENECIA SAYS SHE WANTS to change the world.

The University of the Philippines College of Law valedictorian has taken the first step toward her goal, topping the list of 1,526 examinees who passed last year's bar examinations, the results of which were released last night by the Supreme Court.

The scion of a politically influential family scored 87.20 percent in the examinations, which saw a record passing rate of 27.2 percent. Two other UP graduates also topped the exams. Three examinees from Ateneo also landed in the top 10.

The 25-year-old De Venecia is the daughter of former Judge Antonio de Venecia, elder brother of House Speaker Jose de Venecia.

The other top 10 finishers were Joanie Nazareno of the Ateneo de Manila Law School (2nd, 86.40); Sheryl May B. Tanquilut (Ateneo, 85.95); Nyerson Dexter Tito Taalla (Manuel Luis Quezon University, 85.45); Tammie Rae Lucila (UP, 85.25); Gladys Gervacio (University of Perpetual Help-Rizal, 85.30); Claudine B. Orocio-Isorena (UE, 85.20); Pedro

UP TOPS/A21



BAR TOPNOTCHER Joan de Venecia

GMA rides Cha-cha train

'It's time for old-time politicians to stand back or get run over'



HAVING THE LAST LAUGH? President Arroyo finds something so delightfully funny during the 11th Philippine Economic Zone Authority investors recognition day at the Westin Philippine Plaza.

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr. and TJ Burgonio

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO YESTERDAY PUT HER CARDS on the table and endorsed the controversial people's initiative to amend the 1987 Constitution.

"The true power of the people is being felt with the signature campaign to change our form of government. The old-time politicians of the status quo better stand back because this train has left the station. It is time for politicians to stand back or get run over," Ms Arroyo said in a speech at the World Bank-sponsored Philippine Development Forum in Tagaytay City.

The President disclosed her position on the people's initiative even before the Supreme Court could settle the legal questions surrounding the exercise and the Commission on Elections could determine whether the signature drive by Sigaw ng Bayan had complied with the required 12 percent of the total registered voters and 3 percent in each legislative district.

After the President's declaration, her Cabinet and advisers took turns defending the people's initiative after days of denying involvement in it.

In a statement, Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said: "It is time for us to cross the Rubicon.

"We have achieved momentum. Let us not

GMA RIDES/A19

JDV sees 'interim parliament' by July

By Michael Lim Ubac

AN "INTERIM PARLIAMENT" WILL TAKE power as early as July to continue the process of amending the Constitution after the shift to a parliamentary system of government shall have been made, Speaker Jose de Venecia said yesterday.

In disclosing a timeline for Charter change through a people's initiative, De Venecia said the verification of the five million signatures expressing approval for the shift to a parliamentary system would be completed by April 15.

He said this would be followed by a monthlong campaign to woo the support of the majority of the people, then a plebiscite in June to ratify the shift.

De Venecia said he expected an interim parliament to convene in July at the latest "to tackle the other key amendments." He said the June 2007 polls would push through to elect members of a new parliament.

Under Republic Act No. 6735, the act providing for a system of initiatives and referendums, the "proposition in an initiative on the Constitution" must be "approved by the majority of the votes cast in the plebiscite."

But a smaller number of people—12 percent of the total number of registered voters as signatories, with every legislative district represented by at least 3 percent of the voters—would be sufficient to

JDV SEES/A19

2 lawmakers hit Favila for calling jobless Pinoys choosy

By Michael Lim Ubac and Jerome Aning

TRADE SECRETARY PETER FAVILA IS EITHER "misinformed," or he has just "insulting" the millions of unemployed Filipinos, two party-list lawmakers said yesterday.

Representatives Joel Villanueva of Citizens' Battle Against Corruption (Cibac) and Teodoro Casiño of Bayan Muna reacted strongly to Favila's claim Wednesday that many Filipinos were unemployed because they were choosy about jobs.

Villanueva said Favila's assessment "insults the millions of Filipinos who are treated as slaves abroad, working in dire conditions away from their loved ones, just to provide a decent life for their families."

He said the fact that teachers were willing to become domestic helpers,

2 LAWMAKERS/A6

WB FORECAST ON RP

Faster economic growth, but hunger also growing

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE WORLD BANK FORESEES FASTER economic growth for the Philippines and further improvement in the government's finances this year even as more Filipinos consider themselves to be poor and hungry.

In its twice-yearly outlook on East Asia, the World Bank said the Philippine economy was expected to grow 5.3 percent in 2006 and 5.6 percent in 2007 compared to 5.1 percent last year due to rising consumption fueled by strong remittances from overseas Filipino workers.

The World Bank's projected growth rate for the Philippine economy is slightly lower than the government's revised target range of growth of 5.5 to 6.2 percent this year.

The Washington-based bank also noted that despite two years of Philippine economic growth, surveys showed that 17 percent of Filipinos reported suffering hunger compared to 12 percent last year and over 48 percent considered themselves impoverished compared to 40 percent in 2005.

"Recent surveys indicate that more Filipinos are suffering from hunger … suggesting that the positive growth performance in the last two years is not perceived to have been widely shared," the bank said in its report on the Philippines.

The Philippines is one of Asia's biggest importers of rice, its main food staple, due to its rapidly rising population and poor agricultural infrastructure.

Analysts estimate the Philippine economy needs to grow 7 to 8 percent per year to cut poverty significantly among its 85 million people. The population of

FASTER/A11



THE CARDINAL. A rousing welcome is given Gaudencio Cardinal Rosales, the archbishop of Manila, upon his arrival at the Naia on Thursday night from the Vatican, where with 14 other bishops, Pope Benedict XVI elevated him to the elite College of Cardinals which advises the Pope, and will someday elect his successor. The new prince of the Church will say a thanksgiving Mass tomorrow, April 1, at 10 a.m. with President Arroyo and other top officials scheduled to attend.

1st OFW bank for 'world's greatest workers'

By Christine O. Avendaño

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO YESTERDAY announced plans to establish the first OFW bank as part of government efforts to help overseas Filipino workers remit their earnings conveniently through postal systems here and abroad, and at lowest service rates.

The President said the "remote service" was an offering to "our new heroes and greatest workers in the world," who sent a record high of $11 billion in remittances to the country last year.

"So that we can help our OFWs in saving and sending their money back home, we will make the Philippine Postal Savings Bank (PPSB) an OFW bank," she said during a roundtable discussion with government officials in Malacañang.

The government-run PPSB will be renamed Philippine Overseas Postal Bank, according to its president Rolando Macasaet. The new OFW bank will be operational in three to six months, he said.

Ms Arroyo said the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (Owwa) would invest P1 billion in the modernization of the PPSB facilities.

Macasaet proposed the establishment of the OFW bank at Tuesday's Cabinet meeting and this was "approved by Cabinet members," the

FIRST OFW/A19

WEATHER FORECAST

[illegible]

Second FRONTPAGE

No blackouts, energy execs assure public

By Abigail L. Ho and Gil C. Cabacungan

ENERGY OFFICIALS yesterday assured the public that there will be no massive blackouts or power interruptions in Luzon as a result of a Supreme Court ruling ordering the relocation of the key power transmission lines south of Metro Manila.



LOTILLA

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Star witness exposed as military asset

[illegible]



Etta slams NPA on land mine use

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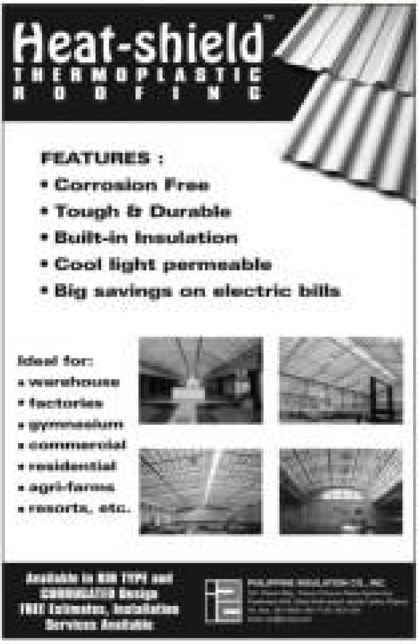
4,000 tenants to receive Luisita land

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US Catholic Church set to donate P14M for Leyte









1,526 out of 5,610 pass bar exams

A

B

C

D

E, F, G

Correction

Retiring Senga won't rush action vs Lim, 19 others

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan



SENGA

Coast Guard to look into 'floating' shabu labs

By Leila B. Salaverria

Talks in final stage; GMA sees peace with Moro rebs this year

Gov't bullish on sale of 2 TV stations

By Alcuin Papa



Bird flu-free RP to resume poultry exports to Japan



2 lawmakers hit Favila for calling jobless Pinoys choosy



VILLANUEVA:



FAVILA: Choosy job seekers



CASIÑO:

Still jobless? Go to Camp Crame

By Luige A. del Puerto

P1B for loyalty

Slots for women

9 employment generators

Ivory tower

Slain cop wrote open letter chiding Pasig colleagues

'Their success our future'

The NPA angle

Theories advanced

Sketches of suspects

1,526 out of 5,610 pass bar exams

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H, I, J, K

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L, M

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N, O

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1,526 out of 5,610 pass bar exams

P, Q, R

[illegible]

S

[illegible]

T

[illegible]

U, V, W

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Y, Z

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PEASANT ACTIVIST

Blacklisted Bangladeshi barred from entering RP

By Leila B. Salaverria

A BANGLADESHI PEASANT LEADER WAS barred from entering the Philippines yesterday after his name popped up in the Bureau of Immigration blacklist for participating in a rally critical of the administration last year.

Badrul Alam, chair of the farmer's group Bangladesh Krishok Federation and a vice chair of the Asian Peasant Coalition, was turned back aboard a Cathay Pacific flight three hours after arriving at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport at 11:15 a.m.

Alam came to the country to attend a conference on food sovereignty sponsored by the Asia Pacific Research Network, an international grouping of peasant advocates. The conference is being held from March 28 to April 3.

Ferdinand Jumapit, Naia immigration chief, said Alam was deported because he was in the immigration blacklist for joining an October 2005 rally against the government.

"That was one of the violations of the conditions of his stay here as a tourist. That is a ground for being included in the blacklist. There is nothing illegal about this (deportation)," said Jumapit in a phone interview.

Alam had joined thousands of anti-Arroyo protesters in a rally on Claro M. Recto Street in Manila. Several foreign delegates from the Asian Peasant Coalition also participated in the mass action last year.

The militant group Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas condemned Alam's deportation.

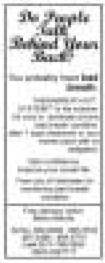
"As far as the Filipino peasants are concerned, Badrul did not commit any crime against the Filipino farmers. The Filipino people and KMP salute Badrul and the farmers of Bangladesh for joining us in our struggle for land, truth and justice, unlike Ms. Arroyo and her gang who are the real enemies of the Filipino peasantry," said KMP secretary general Danilo Ramos in a statement.

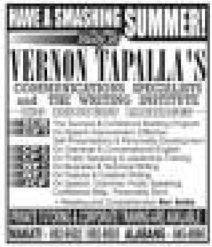
Ramos said Alam was not told the reason for his inclusion in the blacklist.

The KMP said it would ask peasant and rural organizations in Malaysia, Indonesia, India, Thailand, Bangladesh, Nepal and other countries to register their condemnation of the "grossly immoral, inhuman and illegal deportation" of the Bangladeshi peasant leader with the Office of the President, the Department of Justice and the Bureau of Immigration.













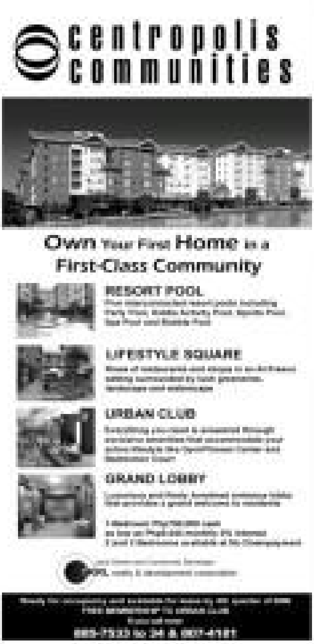


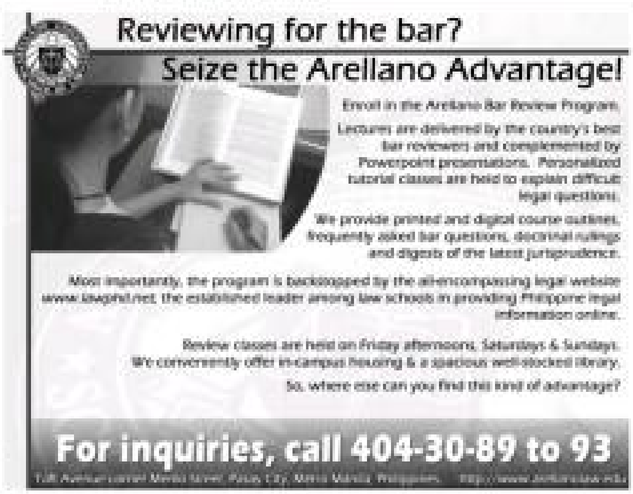










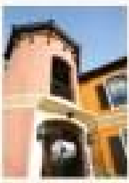


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GLIMPSES OF GRANDEUR



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THE MAKINGS OF A MASTERPIECE

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You enjoy the luxury of space. Lot areas are from 500 sq.m. to 900 sq.m. The floor area ranges from 330 sq.m. to 625 sq.m.

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SIZE MATTERS

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Get to know the grandeur of The Masters Collection. For a Property Preview, call 850 2868 and 850 69





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Some of the model homes offer guest rooms at the ground level. Others offer ground level casitas or guest rooms. A versatile space, the casita can also be converted into a personal den. Spacious courtyards provide a private place to enjoy the benefits of the outdoors. An atrium, a large open area on the first level, provides additional living space with a splendid view of the outdoors. Anta rooms are a prelude to the generously spaced bedrooms. And each model home has a luxury walk-in closet as well. With the Masters Collection, you have all the living space you need for a life of luxury.

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Brittany's Homes of Distinction, as exemplified by the Portofino Masters Collection, leaves an indelible impression. Ranging from P25 million to P40 million, the Masters Collection offers homes at a whole new level of luxury, magnificence at an unprecedented magnitude. For those who live a life with a sense for the grand, a glimpse of the luxurious life awaits with The Masters Collection at Portofino.

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Vol. 21 No. 113

Opinion

Force of numbers

IF THERE IS ONE INSTITUTION THAT IS DEMONstrating unity in adversity, it's the Commission on Elections. Newly confirmed Comelec Commissioner Romeo Brawner has disowned a previous statement attributed to him. He was earlier reported to have told the Commission on Appointments that because of the Supreme Court's decision in Santiago vs. Comelec, any people's initiative petition should, in his opinion, be rejected outright. Around the time he was expressing that opinion, Comelec Chair Benjamin Abalos was putting forward an altogether different view: There are millions of signatures? Then by all means let us validate them, regardless of whether or not the effort the signatures support is permitted or not. Hours later, Brawner said he agreed with Abalos and so now the Comelec is whole and indivisible again.

EDITORIAL

As Abalos put it, the campaign to gather signatures for a people's initiative to change the Constitution "may be a lost cause, but everyone has the right of expression." Brawner then rather belatedly noted that the Supreme Court's 1997 decision was not unanimous. "This opens the possibility of the Supreme Court reversing its decision and allowing the Comelec to entertain petitions for initiative," he said. We doubt if anyone expected Brawner to turn so quickly into a good and loyal soldier.

Abalos, however, is simply acting true to form. He has always been a good politician, which is these parts means that he has thrived in a profession in which finality is not part of the lingua franca. As the saying goes, you cannot teach an old dog new tricks.

Abalos and the Comelec already got into hot water by pushing through with an ill-fated attempt at automating vote counting even in the face of a Supreme Court injunction against it. If he did so then, why then obviously he can do so again. Precisely because in politics, nothing is final and everything is negotiable.

This might have made Abalos a politically adept mayor but it further underscores the folly of his appointment and the dangers that come from putting a politician in a job meant to keep other politicians from subverting the electoral process. What appears on the surface to be a well-meaning live-and-let-live policy (count them, even if they may not matter and may even be patently illegal) becomes the first, and most crucial, battle in an effort to achieve constitutional change by any means necessary.

Leading a united Comelec, Abalos can then proceed to swiftly validate the signatures gathered by those preparing a people's initiative as a means of achieving Charter change. Then, equally swiftly, the Comelec can say that a Supreme Court decision to the contrary notwithstanding, or even pending appeals for a reconsideration of the existing decision, a plebiscite might as well be scheduled.

The plebiscite will then be held, unless the Supreme Court issues a temporary restraining order halting it. But this the Court may or may not do. If it does, it simply places the effort in suspended animation until, as Solicitor General Eduardo Nachura so confidently predicts, the justices reverse the Court's previous ruling. If the Supreme Court doesn't issue a TRO, then a plebiscite can be held even as it ponders challenges to the exercise. The results can be announced, and pressure is on the Court to say the people have spoken and all previous challenges are therefore moot and academic.

The political flexibility of Abalos and the Comelec, for these reasons, should be a cause for unease among constitutionalists and those interested in preserving whatever is left of the integrity of our national institutions. The Comelec is making itself a party to the most reckless and, in a sense, reckless assault on the concept of checks and balances. It is helping to isolate and make irrelevant the Supreme Court and its decisions. It is actively assisting a partisan political exercise. There is no clearer, and more glaring, example of the tyranny of numbers, than the so-called people's initiative that has involved President Macapagal-Arroyo's blessing.



This is the worst time for Charter change

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

THERE ARE MANY REASONS WHY WE should not change our Constitution now. One is the motive of those who want to change it. President Macapagal-Arroyo wants to use it to cling to power. Speaker Jose de Venecia wants to be prime minister because he knows he will never be elected president. Former President Fidel V. Ramos wants to go back as chief executive through the prime ministership. The congressmen, governors and mayors want their terms extended. In short, their motives are selfish. Although they cite other reasons, it is clear to everybody that it is to benefit themselves that they want to change the Constitution. This is the worst reason to change it.

The framers of all our constitutions recognized the temptation of lawmakers to abuse their powers and pass laws that would benefit themselves. That is why there is a provision in the Charter that laws passed by Congress (such as increasing their salaries) cannot apply to them but become effective only after the election of a new set of legislators. Following the spirit of the Constitution, that should also apply to the writers of a new Charter. They should not benefit from the Charter that they themselves wrote.

Another reason that we should not change the Constitution at this time is the brazenness of the administration in using all means to achieve its ends. Bribery, in cash and in kind, is being used on everybody who would accept the bribes. A few thousand pesos are being offered to local government officials, such as barangay officials, jobs for relatives and friends of politicians, cash and food items to the poor herded to the barangay halls to sign the petition for a people's initiative.

There are three ways to amend the Constitution: a Constitutional Convention, a Constituent Assembly, and a People's Initiative. In the first, delegates to the convention would be elected to write the Charter. In the second, members of the Senate and House of Representatives would constitute themselves into an assembly and write the Constitution. In the third, the people themselves, through one-third of all the registered voters, can petition to amend certain provisions of the Charter.

Administration forces do not want a Constitutional Convention because they cannot be sure who would be elected delegates and therefore cannot control what they are going to write. They prefer a Constituent Assembly where pro-administration congressmen can dominate the proceedings, especially with De Venecia as Speaker who has the knack for persuading congressmen to do what he wants. But the Senate does not want to cooperate, and there can be no Constituent Assembly without a Senate.

De Venecia et al. argue that the Senate is not necessary because the House can get the three-fourths vote from among its members, and that the interpretation that the House and Senate should vote separately is wrong. But they themselves know that their own interpretation is the wrong one, so in desperation, they have turned to the last option—the people's initiative.

The trouble with this last option is that the Supreme Court has made it very clear in a previous case that there is no valid enabling law that would authorize a people's initiative. But the move this time the advocates hope that because the ruling in the first case was close, there is a chance that a new ruling would reverse the decision.

Legal eagle Sen. Miriam Defensor Santiago, however, said that under the legal doctrine of "stare decisis," the Supreme Court should follow and uphold its decision in the first case, Santiago vs. Comelec, because "the facts in 1997 and 2006 are substantially the same."

"In 1997, there was no law providing for the procedure to change the Charter by means of a people's initiative," she added. "Up to now, there is no such law.

"Therefore, since the facts in 1997 and 2006 are substantially the same, then under the 'stare decisis' doctrine, the Supreme Court is obliged to follow the ruling in Santiago vs. Comelec."

But because the people's initiative is a desperation move, the administration went ahead with the gathering of the signatures. Bribes materialized. People were lured by politicians with bribes—in cash, in kind and with lies—and made to sign documents the contents of which they didn't even understand.

"People's initiative" means the first move should come from the people themselves. But here, the initiative—in fact, the whole exercise—comes from politicians. It is not a "people's initiative" but a "politicians' initiative." And that is one more reason why we should not change the Charter now—the method being used violates the spirit of the Constitution itself. If they can violate with impunity the Charter now, imagine what they will do once they get the chance to rewrite it. And if they can do what they are doing now under a "bicameral government," imagine what they will do in a unicameral one, without a Senate to check the abuses of the House, and where the party in power controls the three branches of government. The prime minister and Cabinet members would come from members of Parliament—which would be composed, at least in the first three years, by the present rapacious congressmen without the Senate to check them—and the justices of the Supreme Court would also be chosen by them. Can you imagine the abuses they are capable of doing with a carte blanche like that?

By their present actions, the congressmen and other officials of the Arroyo administration are showing to us very clearly why we should all resist efforts to change our Constitution. Let us wait until the present crop of politicians are out of office.

Constitutional brinkmanship

PASSION FOR REASON

Raul C. Pangalangan

IN DECEMBER 2005, I WONDERED ALOUD IN this space: Why the speed, why the audacity of the so-called "people's initiative" to change the Constitution, when the Supreme Court has already been rejected such attempts? My answer: because of the magic of fait accompli.

Charter change proponents will rain through the signature gathering, present the Comelec with the requisite signatures, and say: Charter change is now initiated, so please call a plebiscite. From all appearances, that scenario is now emerging. The spokesman for President Fidel Ramos says: "If the Sigaw ng Bayan Coalition succeeds in raising the required minimum of 5.6 million signatures, the principle of vox populi, vox Dei will have to be considered."

Comelec Chair Benjamin Abalos says the Comelec will soon verify the signatures and announce results in one month, a rather clear signal that the Comelec will go along with the fait accompli. After all, the plebiscite must be on the way before fresh impeachment proceedings against GMA kick in June 2006, i.e., when the one-year bar on impeachment lapses, counting one year from House Leonen's June 28, 2005 filing of his impeachment complaint.

The next stage of the battle then will be fought before the Supreme Court. Solicitor General designate Eduardo Nachura, a constitutional law expert, has already announced, "I think it's time to ask the Supreme Court to revisit [the Pirma] ruling."

Santiago is their key issue. The Constitution expressly says that direct initiative is "subject to [the] implementing legislation by Congress," and the Supreme Court, in Defensor-Santiago v. Comelec (in the Pirma case), found the Initiative Law that was passed by Congress "incomplete, inadequate and wanting." Until now, no new Initiative Law has been enacted, and while the House of Representatives seems hell-bent on pushing it forward, the Senate is poised to block it. No go. That simple. End of story.

"Mindy meant the right of direct initiative would remain entombed in the cold niche of the Constitution until Congress provides for its implementation," Regalado, writing for the Court's majority. "[The Comelec be] permanently enjoined from entertaining or taking cognizance of any petition for initiative on amendments to the Constitution until a sufficient law shall have been validly enacted to provide for the implementation of the system." So how can the Pirma "rule capriciously of any petition"?

But the initiative group's optimism springs from a headcount of the sitting justices. Only Chief Justice Artemio Panganiban and Senior Associate Justice Reynato Puno remain from the original Pirma Court, and both had dissented from the majority ruling.

Indeed, the Court was not unanimous on the lack of enabling legislation. Panganiban concurred only in the result, and would dismiss not the initiative only because it did not carry the requisite signatures. He had reservations about the majority's "restrictive holding," saying it was "all-too-sweeping and all-too-extensive" ... equivalent to ... killing the patient to relieve him of pain. [The misuse of initiative does not justify a ban against its proper use. Indeed, there is a right way to do the right thing at the right time and for the right reason."

Some, however, that even if the dissenters win the day and say that the Initiative Law is adequate, they still face one impediment: the people's initiative can be used only for minor "amendments," not for major "revisions." Congress or a constitutional convention can make either amendments or revisions, but a people's initiative may only propose amendments.

The drafting history of the Charter shows that they used this formula advisedly. "Revision" may involve a rewriting of the whole Constitution. On the other hand, the act of amending a constitution envisages a change of specific provisions."

But I am really bothered by these head-counts. They ignore the normative quality of Supreme Court decisions. Judicial decisions rise and fall on the soundness of their reasoning and conclusions, and unless we assume that judicial appointments are custom-tailored to suit a certain approach or conclusion, changes in the personalities should not entail changes in constitutional norms.

Chief Justice Hilario Davide warned, in Pirma about the Court "allowing itself to be used as a legitimizing tool for those who wish to perpetuate themselves in power," especially those who, in the words of Justice Santiago Kapunan, "cloak its adherence to constitutionalism populist garb." Benjamin Cardozo called the constitution a guarantee "against the assaults of opportunism, the expediency of the passing hour ... the decision of those who have no patience with general principles."

Therefore, the true defect of the current direct initiative does not lie in the doctrinal minutiae that lawyers get excited about—amendment versus revision, adequate for proposing laws but not for amending constitutions. The flaw of this people's initiative is that it does not belong to the people. It belongs to the Department of Interior and Local Government, which convened the barangay assemblies to discuss innocuous-sounding matters like "health, agriculture, education"—measures, that is, until you get to the part "and current issues affecting the country." Grandiose Sigaw for Charter change: Where in the Constitution do we find "politicians' initiative"?

When the Court revisits the Pirma case, let it recall Tã Elio: "The end of all our exploring will be to arrive where we started / And know the place for the first time."

* * *

Comments to passionforreason@gmail.com

Two different crises

Analysis



Amando Doronila

Zero tolerance?

At Large



Rina Jimenez-David

Revisiting a shared past

Looking Back



Ambeth R. Ocampo

Woman the hunter

Pinoy Kasi



Michael L. Tan



Lessons from RP politics

LETTERS

Insensitivity of conservative views on sexuality

Police officers guilty of illegal detention



Illegal arrests of protesters

VOICES ON INQ7.NET

Sama-sama tayo tungo sa pag-asenso. Mag-NEGOSYO!



Sali na sa Entrepreneurship Revolution!

Attend na sa

GO NEGOSYO MICRONEGOSYO fair

sa Philippine Army Gym, Lawton Avenue corner Bayani Road, Fort Bonifacio
sa *March 31* at April 1, 2006 mula 9 am hanggang 6 pm.

Inaanyayahan namin ang mga maybahay o sino man na nais umangat ang kalidad ng buhay sa pamamagitan ng pagpasok sa negosyo na pumunta sa **Go Negosyo MicroNegosyo Fair!** Ito na ang inyong pagkakataong makilala, makausap at makapagtanong sa iilang mga successful na entrepreneur sa bansa sa pamamagitan ng mentoring session. Dito rin kayo makakakuha ng maraming business ideas upang makapag-umpisa ng inyong sariling negosyo! Magsimula man kayo sa maliit na business, uunlad din ito. Patunay na kapag may tiyaga ay may nilaga. Malay n'yo, kayo na ang maging susunod na successful entrepreneur gaya ni **Ray Gapuz**. Kaya huwag palampasin ang oportunidad na umasenso! Makibahagi sa **Go Negosyo MicroNegosyo Fair!**

March 31, Friday

April 1, Saturday



Philippine Center for Entrepreneurship



First OFW bank for 'world's greatest workers'

'Novel' idea

Legal requirements

Informal channels



THE DAILY GOSPEL

Cha-cha a 'dry run' for impeachment battle, says Joker

By Philip C. Tubeza

'Smart little girl'

Real target

Pimentel: Conflict of interest

GMA rides Charter change train

Con-Ass continuing

Doesn't come free

Unanimous

Full steam ahead

More opinion

No promises

JDV sees 'interim parliament' by July

Replacing Congress

RA 6735 as enabling law

'Panic mode'

Not take a position



4 lawyers' groups seek disbarment of Gonzalez

[illegible]

Suspended in 1988

[illegible]

Premature declaration

[illegible]

Too beautiful to be jailed

[illegible]

Pimentel: We've too many lawyers, close law schools for 5 to 10 years

UP tops bar exams again . . .

Faster economic . . .

BAR TOPNOTCHERS 1913-2004

PRE-WAR

WAR TIME

POST-WAR

IN THE KNOW

Across the NATION

Cebu rejects Cha-cha signature bid

CEBU CITY—EXCLUDE CEBU PROVINCE FROM the people's initiative campaign to change the Constitution.



Dirty water kills boy in town near landslide site



ROUNDUP

Hostage-taker shot dead

MILF peace monitor ambushed

Ex-Albay mayor yields

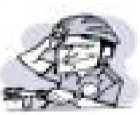
3 downed by puffer fish



Cop shot dead; pal wounded

Hacking suspect found dead

Police back-ups hired



Bontoc bishop to be installed



GRADUATION DAY

Council declares state of calamity in villages tagged landslide prone



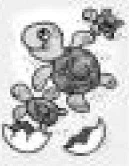
Erosion

Advice

Other sites

Child laborers found in every 3 homes in RP, says DOLE study

Hatching of turtle eggs stirs seashore village



Camarines Sur to tap Japan for med jobs

Chavit to sue JV for libel

By Nelson F. Flores

Lawyer wants Erap reinstated if acquitted

By Nelson F. Flores

LOTTO RESULT

EZ2 — SUERTRES

SIX DIGIT

SUPERLOTTO 6/49

₱68,974,835.40

A plus METRO

WHAT'S INSIDE

17 drug 'hot spots' under tight watch

Couple shot dead in front of young girl



Binay political ally slain

Close range

Outraged

Getaway

Art tilt to highlight forest park launch



ALL EYES

Marikina City will soon have shelter for young detainees

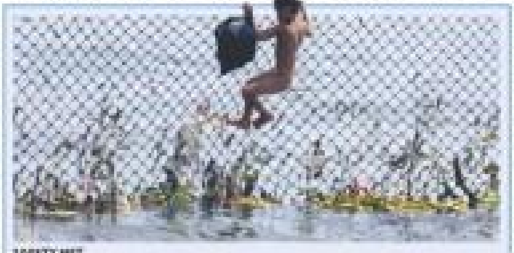
Apartments razed in fire; ₱8 million lost

12 units





₱3M worth of stolen coffee recovered



SAFETY NET

Color coding may be suspended during school break

Longest suspension

Search on for top Manila artists

Townhouse project for Taguig's teachers

Never too late for MRT

By Tina G. Santos



WATER GIRL

Fees paid, where are jobs?

By Tina G. Santos

Processing fees

No license

'Butterfly Series' exhibit ends Monday



ARTIST

Blessed Teresa 2006 nominees

UN: Unemployment in Asia-Pacific up despite high economic growth



Aussie cyclone misses populated areas



Mini-moons explain riddle of Saturn's rings





Brazil's first astronaut blasts off into space

UN gives Iran 30 days to end uranium enrichment

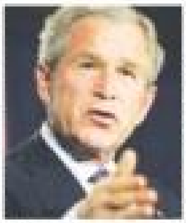
Student gets 30-year jail term for plotting to kill Bush



Apple vs Apple over use of logo



US cuts off contacts with Hamas-led gov't



BUSH

Olmert plans coalition after Israel vote win

34 dead in fighting at Afghanistan base

The WORLD

Protesters barricade Thai newspaper

BANGKOK—ABOUT 2,000 PROGOVERNMENT demonstrators gathered outside the headquarters of a Thai media group Thursday, angry over an alleged insult to the country's revered king by one of its newspapers.





LOST KINGDOM

UN-backed tribunal set to try Taylor

SPORTS

Editor: Teddyvic S. Melendres



Pacman-Larios tickets cost as high as $1,000

By Salvo L. Lagumbay


PACQUIAO

[illegible]

WHAT'S INSIDE





Painters down Sparks, secure tie for top spot

By Jasmine W. Payo

[illegible]

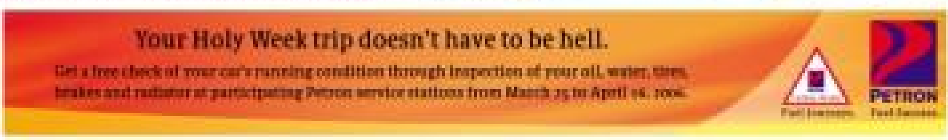


Bulls, Giants renew rivalry

[illegible]







Dumandan storms ahead in DHL Open



De La Salle, SBC prevail

Orchard, Riviera bets win

Iloilo cagers makes NBC debut

Freedom Camp set



Capitol University gains semis

Clark hosts Quartermile

Paragua tackles 50 CAR players

Drag racing series starts April 8

BAP defers filing arbitration case vs POC





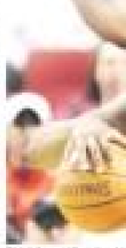
Sports keeps youth away from drugs

CLEAN LIVING



Nets cruise to 10th straight victory





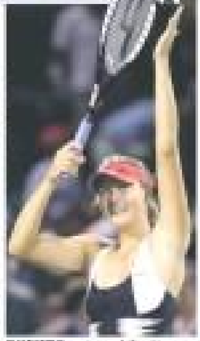
Former UE cager dies

SM results

Gals bigger



Sharapova gains semis



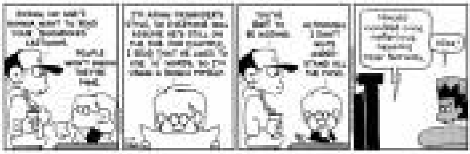
Cantonjos triumphs

PCCderby

P4.4M pot

RCI wins

FOXTROT — BY BILL AMEND

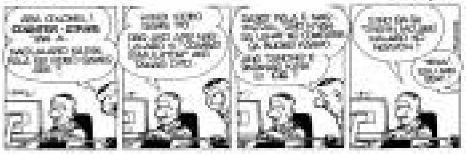


A. LIPIN

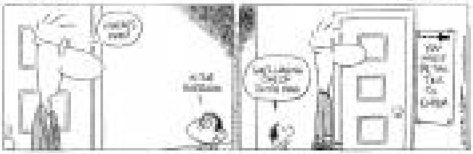




PUGAD BABOY — BY PM JUNIOR

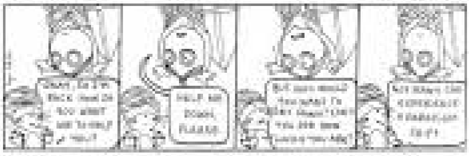


BABY BLUES — BY JERRY SCOTT



MUTTS — BY PATRICK McDONNELL





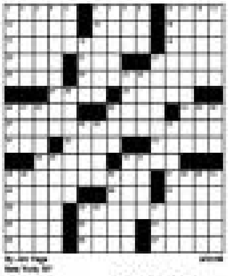
DIVINE COMEDY

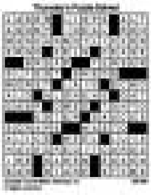


Horoscope

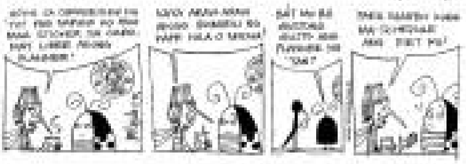
BY FRANCIS DRAKE

Daily Crossword

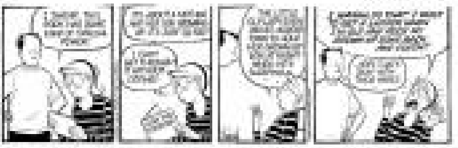




MIKROKOSMOS

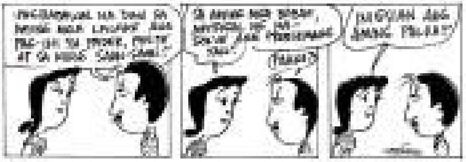


BEN — BY DANIEL SHELTON

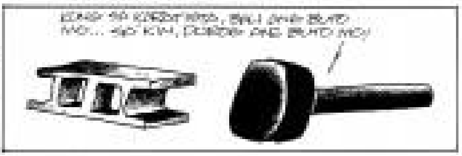




LOVEMOTS



TULDOK







Dy gains last 8 versus Russian

By Marc Anthony Reyes



ENTERTAINMENT

Ryan C is first judge named for 'Philippine Idol'

By Bayani San Diego Jr.



RYAN Cayabyab: "I'll be as Filipino as I am."

Instructions

Auditions

Precious Lara would like to change RP beauty tilts system

By Nini Valera



QUIGAMAN: "Everybody's always late."

'Starstruck' winners launch performing careers

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

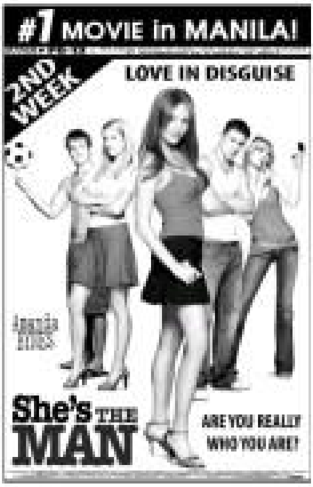


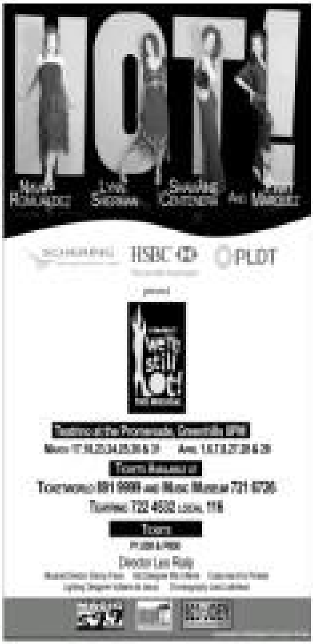
Movies on Cinemax

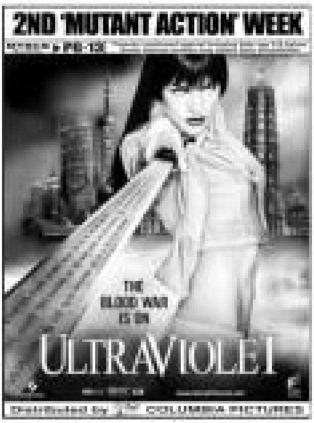






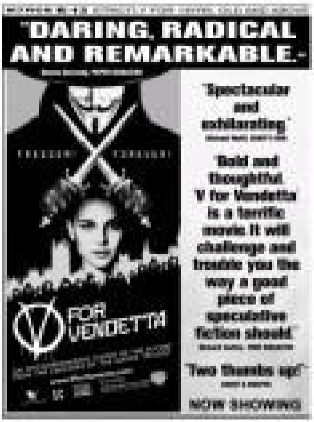


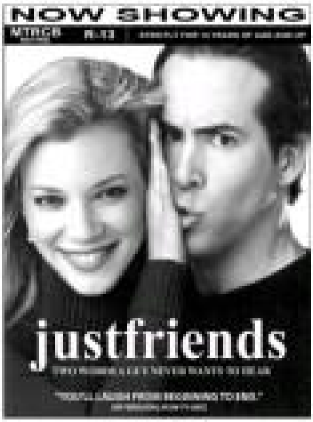












Roundup



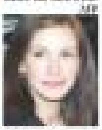
HANKS

StarHanks

LOS ANGELES—Double-Oscar-winner Tom Hanks has signed on to play a cocked advertising executive who ends up working in a coffee shop in the film version of "How Starbucks Saved My Life," reports said Tuesday.

Hanks will star in the movie that will be directed by "Good Will Hunting" filmmaker Gus Van Sant and based on a yet-to-be-written book that Universal Pictures bought up in advance.

The proposed book, to be published by Penguin's Gotham Books, is a memoir by Michael Gates Gill, a former J. Walter Thompson ad executive who was made redundant and found himself working out of his local coffee bar with a job. AFP

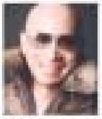


ROBERTS

On Broadway

NEW YORK—OSCAR-winning actress Julia Roberts makes her Broadway stage debut on Tuesday in a production of Richard Greenberg's "Three Days of Rain" after a career solely devoted to the silver screen.

Roberts, 38, was drawn to the play last year with producers hoping her drawing box office magic will draw big audiences to the Bernard B. Jacobs theatre in New York. AFP



DARIO

Two DJs

MANOLET "MANNY" Dario, one of the country's top club scene DJs, "first-rate" for DJ Trent, adjudged the world's best, tonight at the Philippine International Convention Center. The party, sponsored by San Juan and Marcos, starts at 10. (ABS-CBN NP)

Wahlberg baby

LOS ANGELES—Actor-singer Mark Wahlberg and his longtime girlfriend, Rhea Durham, have welcomed their second child, a baby boy, Durham's publicist said.

Durham, a model, gave birth in a Los Angeles hospital on March 22, Durham's manager Liz Dupont-Lee said Tuesday.

Wahlberg and Durham also have a 2-year-old daughter. AP

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS MOVIE GUIDE

CINEMA ACCESS **635-5555** FOR ALL BRANCHES

www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

MOVIES/SCHEDULES/PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

GALLERIA

1 ICE AGE 2 • THX
2 MOMENTS OF LOVE
3 LUCKY NUMBER SLEVIN
4 JUST FRIENDS
5 ICE AGE 2
6 BASIC INSTINCT 2
7 NANNY MCPHEE
8 VENOM
9 SHE'S THE MAN
10 ULTRAVIOLET

ERMITA

1 ICE AGE 2
2 NANNY MCPHEE / ULTRAVIOLET
3 LUCKY NUMBER SLEVIN
4 MOMENTS OF LOVE
5 VENOM
6 JUST FRIENDS
7 BASIC INSTINCT 2

METRO EAST

1 SHE'S THE MAN
2 ICE AGE 2
3 BASIC INSTINCT 2
4 JUST FRIENDS
5 VENOM
6 NANNY MCPHEE / ULTRAVIOLET
7 LUCKY NUMBER SLEVIN
8 MOMENTS OF LOVE

NOVALICHES

1 BASIC INSTINCT 2
2 LUCKY NUMBER SLEVIN
3 JUST FRIENDS
4 VENOM
5 ICE AGE 2
6 MOMENTS OF LOVE

CITISQUARE MALABON

1 MOMENTS OF LOVE
2 ICE AGE 2
3 RESERVE
4 RESERVE

PIONEER

1 ICE AGE 2
2 LUCKY NUMBER SLEVIN
3 BASIC INSTINCT 2
4 VENOM

CHECK THIS OUT ▸▸



SHARON STONE Brings Back the HEAT for

BASIC INSTINCT 2

Now Showing at Robinsons Movieworld Galleria, Ermita, Metro East, Pioneer and Novaliches.

MTRCB Rating: R18

STA. ROSA

1 ICE AGE 2
2 VENOM
3 HOUSE OF FURY
4 MOMENTS OF LOVE

LIPA

1 ICE AGE 2
2 16 BLOCKS
3 MOMENTS OF LOVE
4 GLORY ROAD

DASMARIÑAS

1 ICE AGE 2
2 LUCKY NUMBER SLEVIN
3 ULTRAVIOLET
4 MOMENTS OF LOVE
5 VENOM

ANGELES

1 LUCKY NUMBER SLEVIN
2 MOMENTS OF LOVE
3 ICE AGE 2
4 VENOM

IMUS

1 ICE AGE 2
2 COED SCANDAL
3 ULTRAVIOLET
4 VENOM
5 MOMENTS OF LOVE
6 LUCKY NUMBER SLEVIN

STARMILLS

1 LUCKY NUMBER SLEVIN
2 SHE'S THE MAN
3 MOMENTS OF LOVE
4 ICE AGE 2
5 HOUSE OF FURY
6 VENOM

BACOLOD

1 ICE AGE 2
2 SYRIANA
3 V FOR VENDETTA
4 THE DARK
5 MOMENTS OF LOVE
6 GLORY ROAD

ILOILO

1 GLORY ROAD
2 MOMENTS OF LOVE
3 FINAL DESTINATION 3
4 ICE AGE 2
5 DATE MOVIE
6 V FOR VENDETTA

SM Cinema movietime

METRO MANILA

ICE AGE 2
JUST FRIENDS

16 BLOCKS
JUST FRIENDS
SHE'S THE MAN
RESERVED
NANNY McPHEE
ULTRAVIOLET
V FOR VENDETTA
FINAL DESTINATION 3
ICE AGE 2
ICE AGE 2
VENOM
MOMENTS OF LOVE

ICE AGE 2
V FOR VENDETTA
MOMENTS OF LOVE
RESERVED
JUST FRIENDS
SHE'S THE MAN
VENOM
ULTRAVIOLET

ICE AGE 2
MOMENTS OF LOVE
VENOM
ULTRAVIOLET

FINAL DESTINATION 3
MOMENTS OF LOVE
VENOM
ICE AGE 2

ICE AGE 2
MOMENTS OF LOVE
ULTRAVIOLET
MOMENTS OF LOVE

ICE AGE 2
RESERVED
MOMENTS OF LOVE
16 BLOCKS

THE DARK
FEARLESS
V FOR VENDETTA
ULTRAVIOLET
JUST FRIENDS
MOMENTS OF LOVE
VENOM
NANNY McPHEE
ICE AGE 2
FINAL DESTINATION 3
SHAGGY DOG
SHE'S THE MAN

ICE AGE 2
JUST FRIENDS
ULTRAVIOLET
SHE'S THE MAN
MOMENTS OF LOVE
FINAL DESTINATION 3
NANNY McPHEE
VENOM
V FOR VENDETTA
SHAGGY DOG

ICE AGE 2
MOMENTS OF LOVE
VENOM
ULTRAVIOLET

ICE AGE 2
SHE'S THE MAN
VENOM
NANNY McPHEE
JUST FRIENDS
MOMENTS OF LOVE

ICE AGE 2
V FOR VENDETTA
SHE'S THE MAN
V FOR VENDETTA
NANNY McPHEE
ULTRAVIOLET
MOMENTS OF LOVE
THE DARK
FEARLESS
FINAL DESTINATION 3
16 BLOCKS
JUST FRIENDS

ICE AGE 2
NANNY McPHEE
MOMENTS OF LOVE
VENOM
SHE'S THE MAN
JUST FRIENDS
ULTRAVIOLET
V FOR VENDETTA
FINAL DESTINATION 3

ULTRAVIOLET
ICE AGE 2
MOMENTS OF LOVE
VENOM

ICE AGE 2
VENOM
MOMENTS OF LOVE
ULTRAVIOLET

LUZON

V FOR VENDETTA
SHE'S THE MAN
ICE AGE 2
NANNY McPHEE
ULTRAVIOLET
MOMENTS OF LOVE
VENOM
FINAL DESTINATION 3

VENOM
THE DARK
MOMENTS OF LOVE
ICE AGE 2

VENOM
ICE AGE 2
SHE'S THE MAN
SHAGGY DOG
MOMENTS OF LOVE
MOMENTS OF LOVE

16 BLOCKS
ICE AGE 2
THE DARK
MOMENTS OF LOVE

ICE AGE 2
MOMENTS OF LOVE
NANNY McPHEE
ULTRAVIOLET

SYRIANA
VENOM
ICE AGE 2
CASANOVA
HOUSE OF FURY
BREAKING NEWS
MOMENTS OF LOVE
V FOR VENDETTA

VISAYAS MINDANAO

GLORY ROAD
RESERVED
ICE AGE 2
FINAL DESTINATION 3
MOMENTS OF LOVE
SHAGGY DOG
RESERVED
V FOR VENDETTA

BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE
NEW WORLD
MOMENTS OF LOVE
VENOM
HOUSE OF FURY
ICE AGE 2

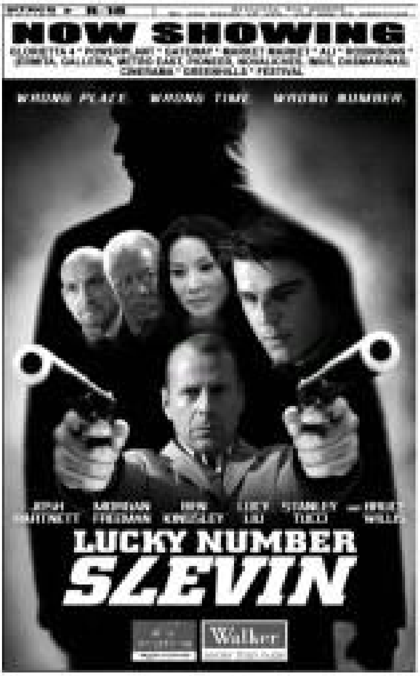
ICE AGE 2
FINAL DESTINATION 3
MOMENTS OF LOVE
VENOM

SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

Pampanga-born . . .









'I recently walked through a photo exhibit with Drew Barrymore'













Pampanga-born Vanessa Minnillo going places

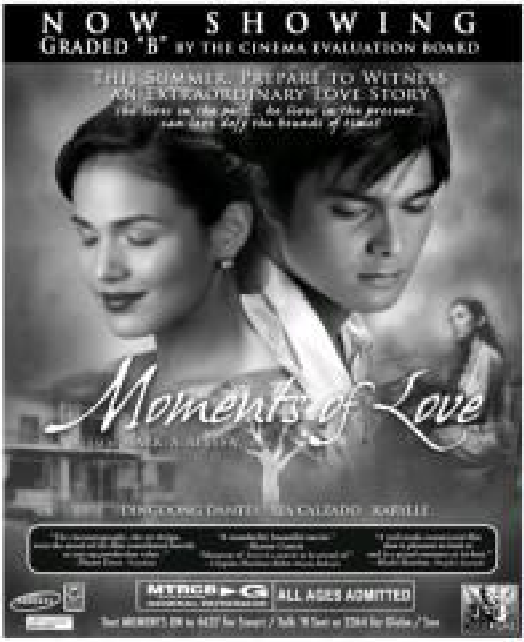
ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD



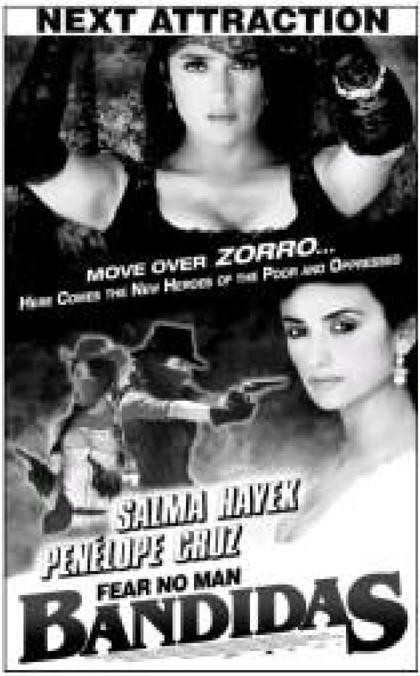
Ruben V. Nepales

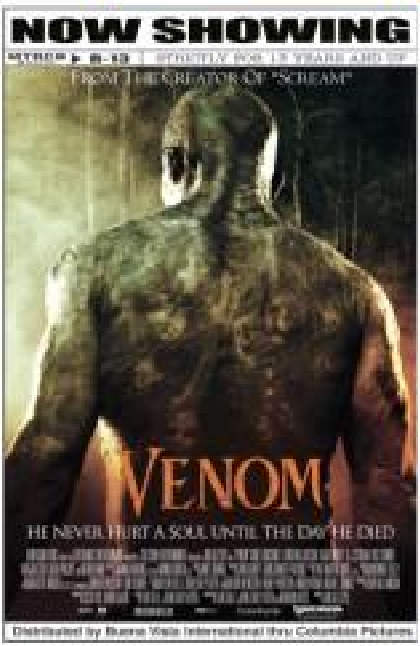


Miss Teen USA '98 is 'Entertainment Tonight's' New York correspondent—oh, and did you see her hosting the Oscar pre-show?









BUSINESS

RP donors say gov't averted economic crisis



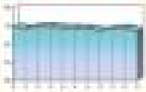
But more reforms, better tax collection needed

THE PHILIPPINES HAS AVERTED AN ECONOMIC CRISIS AND moved toward a "virtuous" path following recent strides in fiscal consolidation, but more reforms are needed to lock in gains and benefit the Filipino masses.

ABS-CBN profit slumps on weak ad revenues

THE FINANCIAL TROUBLES OF ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.—the country's biggest broadcast network—showed no signs of easing as lower revenues and higher costs conspired to push profits lower last year.

Currencies



PESO-DOLLAR RATE

Stock Market



Shares close flat

WHAT'S INSIDE

Basic sells unit to Forum Energy

RP . . .

Shares close flat

New York Life unit in RP sees 30% jump in sales this year

[illegible]

PRULINK	PRU LIFE UK	
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Investment Funds of	UNIT PRICES (in Php)	
	March 27, 2006	March 28, 2006
Fixed Income Fund	[illegible]	[illegible]
Balanced Fund	[illegible]	[illegible]
Equity Fund	[illegible]	[illegible]

Online gaming firm expands

MPC scare

COCKTALES

Victor C. Agustin

Money-go-round

Heard through the grapevine

MacroAsia up on mining news

ABS-CBN . . .

Scientists race to save Abaca

Transco set to bid out 6 contested projects

Experts turn to genetics as diseases threaten country's top export draw





SAY CHINESE TAKEOUT IN ARABIC

Gov't urged to give up grant of cement incentives

RFM settles 4-year strike at Swift plant

Air Philippines launches ₱1 fare



Lending facility for military officers' dependents planned

Jewelry companies gain foothold in Europe—DTI

Super Deals from TOSHIBA

From now until 2 April 2006, get the chance to own your dream laptop from TOSHIBA with the BPI Installment Madness ongoing at Glorietta!





Gov't OKs ₱8.15-B Transco line

VAT from e-load, export overruns eyed

Agumil to invest ₱300M in palm oil plant

By Christian A. Gaphron

Negros farmers desperately seeking buyers of peanuts



Ecozones' earnings down 10% in 2005

Peza remits ₱911M to national treasury



BUSINESS Friday

Small fish goes after big fishes

First RP toothpaste maker meets multinationals head on



CECILIO Pedro, founder of Lamoiyan Corp.



THE P7-BILLION toothpaste market is segmented.

More feasible

Professionalizing

Early start



More than just money-making schemes

By Patricia de Leon

More than just . . .



BAGS by RS Mfg. Phils.

Tinabuan

Maunlad Coco Coir



PLACEMAT sets from Tinabuan.

RS Mfg. Phils.

Adolph's Coco Beads

Blade maker cashes in on sword-and-sandal flicks

By Yolanda Sotelo-Fuertes
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Orders from abroad swamp small smithy in Pangasinan

[illegible]





MOVIES like "The Gladiator" pick up sales of the swords.



A WORKER polishes a holster amid the finished products.

[illegible]

Is ...

[illegible]

Philam Plans – Earning people's trust, fulfilling Filipino dreams



Saving up for future needs

"Understanding the basics of financial planning and saving are critical in ensuring a peaceful and worry-free life."

Serving Philam Plans' Mission

"More than sales leadership, helping people plan or secure their future is our most important concern."

More than being on top



'Is advertising an effective tool for consulting firms?'

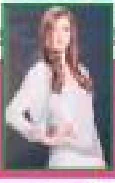
Marketing Rx



MANILA

LIFESTYLE

Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso

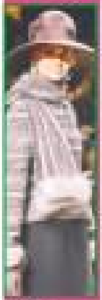


SINGAPORE

...NESS • WEDNESDAY 2BU • THURSDAY FOOD • FRIDAY FASHION & BEAUTY

Glam fest

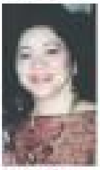
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TOKYO



ZABIG Lacson, man of the hour Ezequiel "Ezzy" Robles and his spouse for a day Dialing R., Fr. Rey Garcia and Ray Cruz



CARMINA Sarno



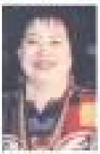
WE ARE FAMILY: Paul Michael, Michelle, Joanna, Marlon and Jayson Robles, and their mother, Matilde "Dialing" Robles



HIP YOUNG guests



INVITEES



COMMIE de Silva

Beauty and bravura in Iloilo

WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH

Maurice Arcache



Photos by Alex Van Hagen using Kodak EasyShare

[illegible]

Birthday outreach

[illegible]



CHRISTY Joy Consolacion



GORGEOUS candidates



CROWNED



ALL LOOKING



YOUNG



REGAL



CO-HOST Sedfrey Cabaluna with



WINNERS



TOP DESIGNER



HON.



JUDGES





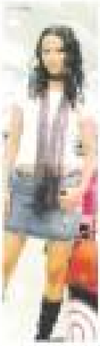
Strictly for ladies

[illegible]



[illegible]





[illegible]

It's getting tougher...

[illegible]

DJ comes to town

[illegible]

Monique Lhuillier's Manila show set in November

FLASH! THE MUCH-AWAITed Monique Lhuillier fashion show is finally pushing through on Nov. 12.

Travails of fashion organizing

LIFE-STYLED



Thelma Sioson San Juan

But it's getting tougher to produce fashion shows

Fashion Week

LifeStyle

BEAUTY

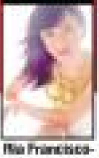


Bravura beauty treats

I believe Awake is one brand that has to be discovered by everyone. It delivers!

STORY ON PAGE D3

KNOCKOUT!



Ria Francisco-Prieto


36 Years of convenient and affordable shopping!
UniMart
Anniversary Sale
From March 31 to April 14
Makati Supermart
Makati Supermart is now open from 8:30 AM to 9:00 PM everyday
CASH & CARRY
SUPERMARKET
Ore-Ida
P235.00
Cristobal
P431.50
Eggplant • Champion Watermelon • Indian Mango • Native Mustard • Native Lettuce • Native White Onions • Flame Seedless Grape • Potatoes (regular size)
Red Globe
Grapes
P167.50
Swanson
P168.50
Ho-Mi
Milk Magic
Bakers
Shaline Loaded
Jolly
Florence
Cook Best
Pet One
Glade
Enjoy
EQ Dry
Sensodyne

cut & keep

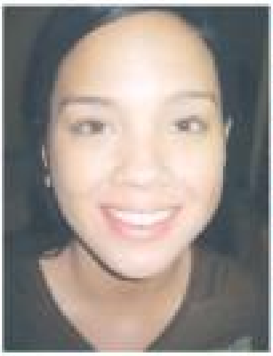


AFTER: pretty striking

Red-hot lippies

Because you know you should try it once in your life

Step by step to perfect lips



BEFORE: pretty plain

Bravura...

From page D1



L'OCCITANE Almond Scented Candle

I ENJOY GETTING MASSAGES at home. The sad news is, I have yet to find a home-service company with a therapist I like. I have actually experienced a masseuse from hell. Every touch was pure pain. I told her to stop pressing on my spine. I would stop breathing once in a while to brace myself from the pain. As stupid as it sounds, I was actually waiting for it to get better, but it never did. After the massage, I needed to get another one... fast!

Experience



ESTEE Lauder ... serum

Summer-proof beauty

MAKEOVER 911



Kisses Salar



BULGARI Au The Rouge spray

LifeStyle



IN THIS ISSUE









By Alex Y. Vergara

HOW OFTEN HAVE YOU HEARD journalists ask you not to shoot the messenger? We at Inquirer Fashion make our own appeal as we elevate fashion designers Ivarluski Aseron, Rhett Eala, Joji Lloren, Dennis Lustico and Joey Samson to our A-list. Now, down with those eyebrows, please.

[illegible]

Loyal following

[illegible]

Individual strengths

[illegible]

E-mail the author at [illegible]



Drum roll, please, for our fashion A-list: Ivarluski Aseron, Rhett Eala, Joji Lloren, Dennis Lustico and Joey Samson!

ON NICOLETTE: [illegible]

ON ANNA: [illegible]

ON JOANN: [illegible]

ON MARK: [illegible]

ON ISABEL: [illegible]

Rhett Eala, the Pop Visionary

[illegible]

Joji Lloren, Mr. Clean

[illegible]

Ivarluski Aseron, the Intellectual

[illegible]

Dennis Lustico, the Ladies' Man

[illegible]

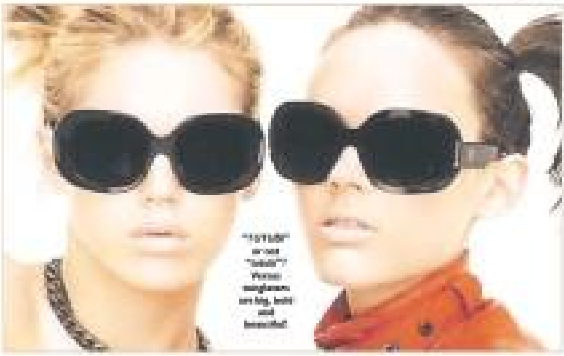
Joey Samson, the Architect

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WING IT! High in style with Calvin Klein



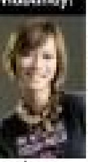
Versace sunglasses are big, bold and beautiful!

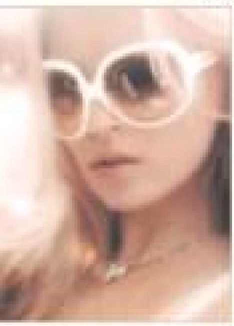
See no evil

end off harsh UV rays
his summer with big, bold
nd beautiful sunglasses
hat flatter your face shape

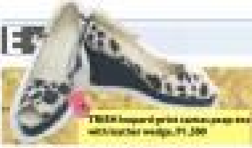
IN AN EFFORT TO AVOID BEING recognized by the paparazzi (or at the very least, shield their eyes from the blinding glare of gazillion flash bulbs), the young Hollywood set wear their gargantuan plastic-rimmed sunglasses day and night.

Mabuhay!





brag board



If you're always on the lookout for fashionable but inexpensive footwear, you'll love Sapatos Manila's summer selection of flat, funky wedges and wooden-heeled shoes. The lovely 'bakya' is glorified with a plethora of colorful prints that can spice up any outfit, while the up-to-the minute wedge is made even trendier with leopard print or candy stripes.





See no evil

I gotta wear shades

SUPER SHADES FOR YOUR SHAPE



Round



Square



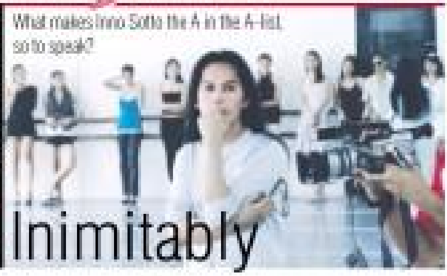
Heart



Oval

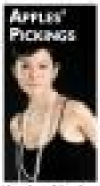
LifeStyle

FASHION



Inno

IF THERE'S ONE THING I learned in my years in the fashion industry, it's the fact that it takes more than just great talent to succeed in an industry populated by extremely creative artists. And what's even harder is staying on top of the game.

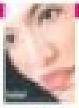


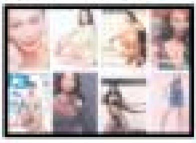
Apples Aberin-Sadhwani

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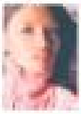
The Supermodel



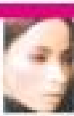


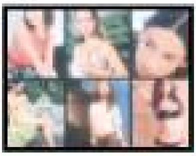


The Muse



Tri-media mannequin







The Ingenue

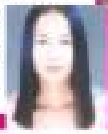
Catwalk queens

Manila's current top models all share that invaluable yet indefinable X-factor





Couture queen



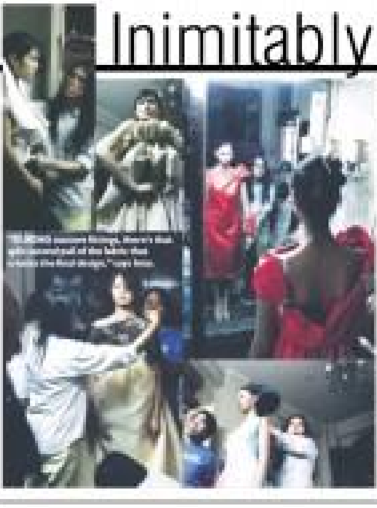


Day 1: The music



Day 2: The workshop

Inimitably Inno

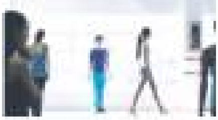


Day 3: The fitting

The look







Fashion-forward week

Philippine Fashion Week will run at the NBC Tent, March 31-April 4, and at the Glorietta Activity Center, April 5-9

[illegible]

No state support

[illegible]

Parochial issues

[illegible]



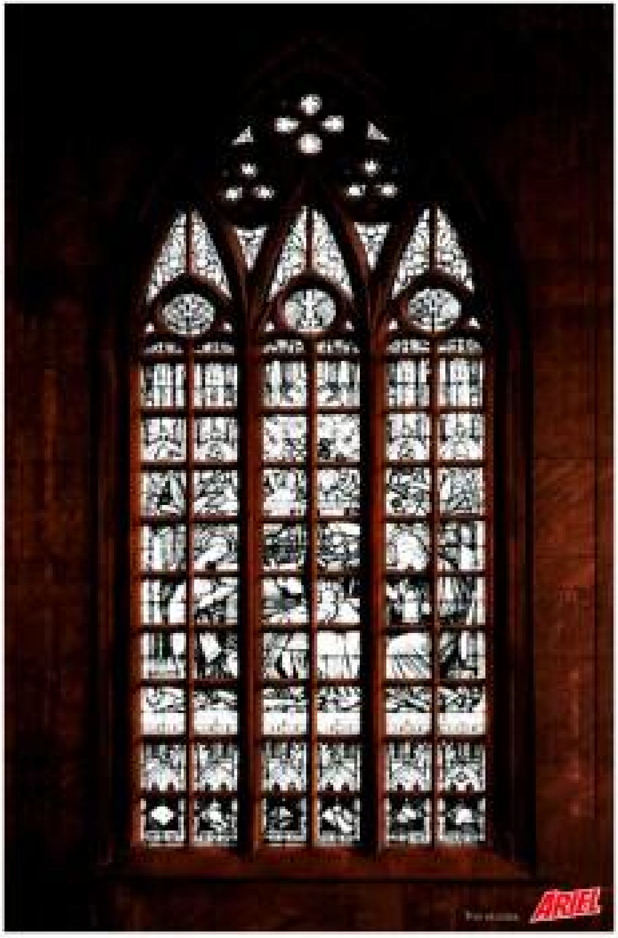








Fashion-forward week



LIFESTYLE



Light and intimate this summer

Bench and Human have got you covered on this season of skin

By Chuchie V. Marol
Photos by Benny Johnson and Rudy Esperas

IT'S 36°C OUTSIDE, AND IT'S hard to keep your cool when you feel you're roasting combustion. The hellish heat makes you long for escape. Any place but here!

Then you travel to a place where it's -20°C several days before it's officially spring and, once again, you wish you were back in the same place you were trying to flee from: the warm comfort of home.



As people used to living in cold places would say, you don't really feel the bitterness of cold if you're properly dressed—layers upon layers of synthetic fabrics, wools, and cashmere and furs. It can work either way.

It's the same thing when living in the tropics. In fact, you have to count your blessings. We don't need to smother ourselves in expensive animal pelts and skins to survive the searing temperatures.

The solution isn't so extreme as tearing your clothes off (though when you're at the end of your tether, ... may be tempting), but as simple as picking the appropriate clothing fabrics for the weather. You shed off tight, stuffy clothes and go for looser cuts. You're going for ease, after all.

Top fabric of choice for summer, of course, is cotton, cotton and cotton. It's affordable and widely available,





and used in everything from underwear to swimwear to bath towels. It's soft, comfortable and drapes well. Since the material retains color well, cotton clothes come in every imaginable print, which is just the answer to those looking to spunk their color-parched summer wardrobes.

At fashion and lifestyle shops like Bench and Human, they got you, well, covered head to foot with their Summer 2006 collections.

For the ladies, there are all-cotton cami and panty sets, in stripes or with lace trimmings.

The men can opt for classic briefs or boxers, in bold stripes or solid colors, also all made of cotton.

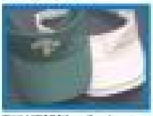
Human and Bench each have new collections of bloom-printed beach and board shorts. To ward off the sun's glare, they have new sun visors and roomy baseball caps, and reversible fisherman's hats. There are also multicolored flip-flops for every day or for those trips to the beach. Some styles from Herbench also have bead accents.

Bench also introduces its [illegible], and two new fragrances for summer—Hola Girl and Island Boy.















Bench's angels



Bianca King



Name: Angelica Panganiban



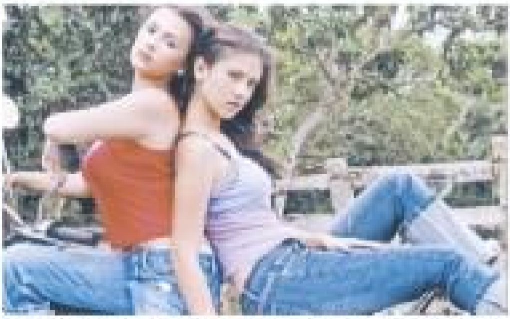
Name: Bianca Charlotte A. King



Get to know a pair of heavenly bodies—in their own words



[illegible]



ON ANGELICA and Bianca: [illegible]

Bench's angels

From page 1

"My style is very schizophrenic. [illegible]"

Angelica Panganiban

Angelica Panganiban literally grew up before our eyes. [illegible]

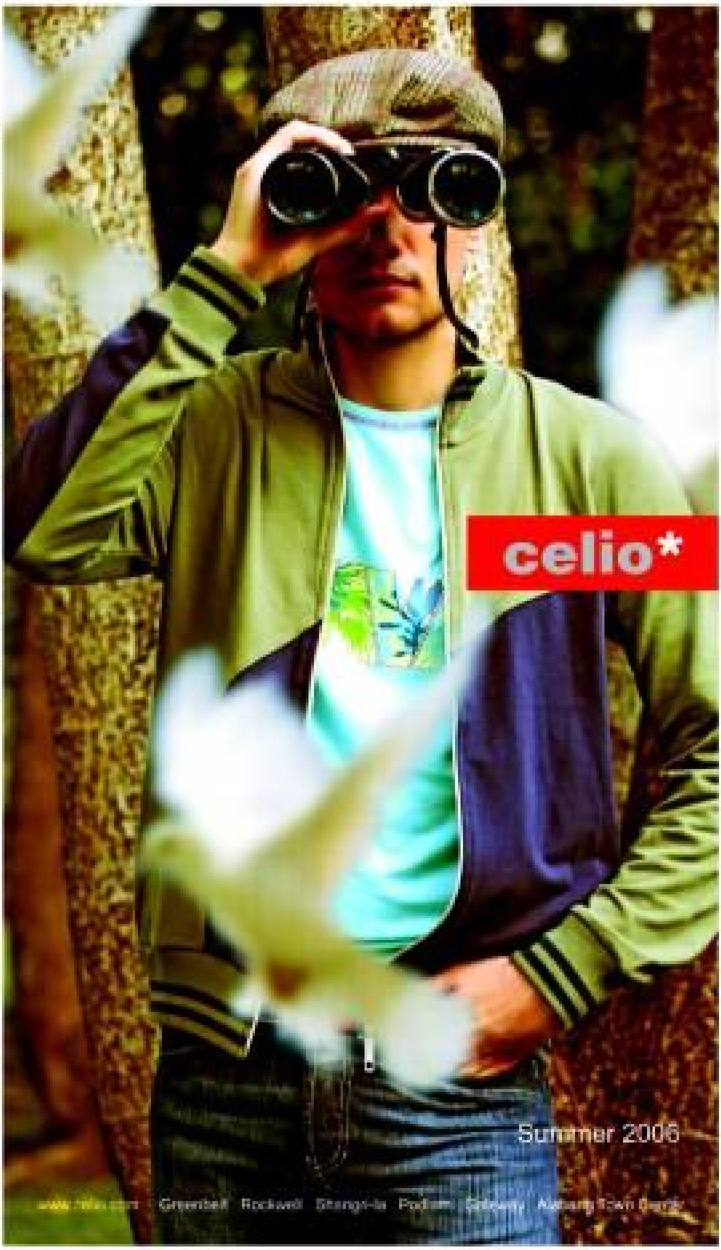
[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]



WHITE [illegible]



Think light and breezy feminine, and get ready for your summer fling with Kashieca



Preppie but flirty



Summer must-have

Quiet charmer

Reinventing chic



SUMMER must-have Kashieca mesh bag

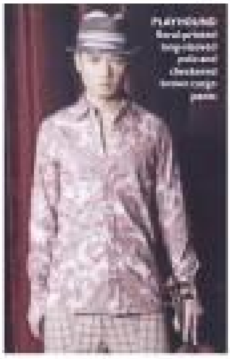




At play with fashionable twosome

A Thai fashion house shows why Tim Yap and Celine Lopez deserve each other





FOR TIM YAP AND CELINE Lopez, it's another feather in their fashion hats, and something to add in their "things in common" list.





THIS gentle body scrub has extracts of papaya and bearberry to keep skin fair and refreshed.



BENCH Organics' soaps are especially formulated with natural seaweed extract to brighten the skin.

Whiter than ever



Bench Organics joins the skin-whitening bandwagon

Text by [illegible]
Photos by [illegible]

IS THE MARKET READY FOR ANOTHER skin-whitening range?

Bench Organics, the all-natural skin and body care line of Bench, believes there's ample room for its newly launched line of skin-whitening products that promise Filipino women a fairer complexion like no other.

Yes, Bench Organics has found a gap in the current market offerings—the absence of a complete natural body-care range that combines the benefits of whitening, moisturizing and firming.

"Asian women in general want to have fairer skin," says [illegible] Reating, brand manager of Suyen Corporation, the mother company of Bench, Herbench and Human. "With our new skin-whitening products we answer the demand of those who want to improve their skin texture and at the same time nourish and feed their skin."

The lightening line includes Papaya Whitening and Firming Soap, Papaya Whitening and Firming Body Scrub, Papaya Whitening and Firming Lotion, and Papaya Whitening and Firming Dry Oil Mist.

Reating explains Bench Organics products have been developed to elevate the act of daily bathing into a complete cleansing and rejuvenating experience. From a soap and body scrub that naturally tone, whiten and moisturize the skin, to a body mist and lotion that infuse the mind and relax the senses.

Bench Organics' soap is entirely made by hand. It's also completely biodegradable and does not contain preservatives or harsh drying compounds common in commercially available soaps. It has the finest papaya and bearberry extracts that gently exfoliate and whiten skin, while seaweed extract tightens skin. It has two sizes: 45 g (P50) and 135 g (P89).

The lotion renews skin's natural glow with special formulation also from papaya, bearberry and seaweed. The 95 g tube is available for only P85.

The body scrub contains apricot seeds that exfoliate dead skin cells. The seaweed extract makes the skin firm. The scrub is available in 200 g for P179.

The oil mist is a non-greasy dry-oil mist that seals in the skin's moisture through the moisturizing properties of natural olive oil. It is enriched with papaya extract to whiten and replenish skin lipids lost after bathing. It's also enriched with vitamin E. The 120-ml bottle costs P159.

Reating assures consumers that all its products are made from natural and organic ingredients.

"We believe very strongly that what we put on skin should be organic, non-invasive, non-toxic and non-irritant to our body to ensure that it forms a vital part of the way our skin looks and feels," says Reating.

The complete Papaya Whitening range of Bench Organics products is now available at Bench, Herbench, Superbench, BenchBody and PCX.



PAPAYA Whitening and Firming dry oil mist and lotion rejuvenate and restore youthful skin.